

Amendments to the Claims

Please make the following amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) Apparatus, comprising:  
 an external storage device having a normal partition storing an executable program for a main operating system, which can be referred to by a user, and a hidden partition storing an executable program for a sub-operating-system and, which is hidden from the user;  
a suspend unit which stops the operation of the main operating system and saves the state of execution of the main operating system to a save area upon receiving a switch direction that arises in response to a first change in information processing needs;  
 a reader which reads the executable program for the sub-operating-system from the hidden partition to a main storage unit upon receiving a direction for reading after the suspend unit stops the operation of the main operating system and saves the state of execution of the main operating system to the save area in response to a direction for reading the program from the user; and  
 an execution unit which executes the executable program of the sub-operating-system when the executable program of the sub-operating-system is fully read into said the main storage unit.
  
- 2 (Original) Apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said reader transmits a predetermined password to said external storage device to permit said external storage device to read the hidden partition.
  
3. (Currently amended) Apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the first change in information processing needs operating-system is a requires the sub-operating system which is activated in a time period shorter than that required to activate a with a shorter activation time than the main operating system which runs in the apparatus when the user has not made the switch direction, and said reader reads the executable program for the sub-operating system from the hidden partition hidden from the main operating system.

4. (Currently amended) Apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the first change in information processing needs ~~operating system~~ allows the sub-operating system having a power consumption per unit time lower than that of a main operating system ~~which runs in the apparatus when the user has not made the direction, and said reader reads the executable program for the sub operating system from the hidden partition hidden from the main operating system to said main storage device~~ to adequately and preferably meet the new information processing needs.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Currently amended) Apparatus of Claim ~~[[6]]~~1, further comprising a resume unit which restores the state of execution of the main operating system from the save area and resumes the execution of the main operating system when the execution of the sub-operating system is completed after a second change in information processing needs.
8. (Currently amended) Apparatus of Claim ~~[[5]]~~1, wherein ~~said the~~ suspend unit saves the state of execution of the main operating system to the save area provided in the hidden partition.
9. (Currently amended) Apparatus of Claim ~~[[5]]~~1, further comprising a device driver executed on the main operating system, said device driver requesting the main operating system to assign part of the main storage device as the save area; wherein said suspend unit saves the state of execution to the save area assigned by said device driver.
10. (Currently amended) Apparatus of Claim ~~[[5]]~~1, wherein said suspend unit secures the save area in an NVS (Non-Volatile-Sleeping) area by using an ACPI function provided in the apparatus.

11. (Currently amended) Apparatus of Claim [[5]]1, wherein said suspend unit uses as the save area a video memory used for on-screen display by the apparatus.
12. (Original) Apparatus of Claim 11, wherein said suspend unit uses as the save area an unused area not used by the sub-operating system in said video memory.
13. (Currently amended) Apparatus of Claim [[5]]1, wherein said suspend unit uses as the save area a storage area powered off to lose stored contents when the main operating system is in the suspended state and when the sub-operating system is not started.
14. (Currently amended) A control method of ~~controlling an apparatus having an external storage device having a normal partition which can be referred to by a user and a hidden partition hidden from the user~~, said method comprising the steps of:
- ~~previously~~ storing an executable program for an main operating system on a normal partition of an external storage device, a user being able to refer to the normal partition, and storing an executable program for a sub-operating-system on a hidden partition of the external storage device, the user not having access to the hidden partition ;
  - suspending the operation of the main operating system upon receiving a switch direction that arises in response to a first change in information processing needs;
  - saving the state of the execution of the main operating system to a save area after the main operating system has been suspended;
  - reading the executable program for the sub-operating-system from the hidden partition to a main storage unit ~~in response to a direction for reading the program from the user~~
  - after the state of execution of the main operating system has been saved to the save area; and
  - executing the sub-operating-system read into the main storage unit; and
  - restoring the state of execution of the main operating system from the save area after a

second change in information processing needs.

15. (Currently amended) A computer program product comprising:

a storage medium having a program stored therein which is readable by a computer having an external storage device which has a normal partition, which can be referred to by a user, storing an executable program for a main operating system and a hidden partition, hidden from the user, storing an executable program for a sub-operating-system ~~and hidden from the user~~, said program causing the computer to function as:

a suspend unit which stops the operation of the main operating system and saves the state of execution of the main operating system to a save area upon receiving a switch direction that arises in response to a first change in information processing needs;

a reader which reads the executable program for the sub-operating-system from the hidden partition to a main storage unit upon receiving a direction for reading after the suspend unit stops the operation of the main operating system and saves the state of execution of the main operating system to the save area in response to a direction for reading the program from the user; and

an execution unit which executes the executable program of the sub-operating-system when the executable program of the sub-operating-system is fully read into the main storage unit,

16. (Currently amended) A computer readable recording medium having recorded thereon a program for causing a computer to operate as an apparatus, the computer having an external storage device having a normal partition, which can be referred to by a user, storing an executable program for a main operating system and a hidden partition, hidden from the user, storing an executable program as ~~sub-operating-system-and hidden from the user~~, the program causing the computer to function as:

a suspend unit which stops the operation of the main operating system and saves the state of execution of the main operating system to a save area upon receiving a switch direction that arises in response to a first change in information processing needs;

a reader which reads the executable program for the sub-operating-system from the hidden partition to a main storage unit upon receiving a direction for reading after the suspend unit stops the operation of the main operating system and saves the state of execution of the main operating system to the save area ~~in response to a direction for reading the program from the user;~~and

an execution unit which executes the executable program of the sub-operating-system when the executable program of the sub-operating-system is fully read into the main storage unit;and

a resume unit which restores the state of execution of the main operating system from the save area and resumes the execution of the main operating system when the execution of the sub-operating system is completed after a second change in information processing needs.